VZCZCXRO6761 RR RUEHGR DE RUEHPO #0435 1931430 ZNR UUUUU ZZH R 121430Z JUL 06 FM AMEMBASSY PARAMARIBO TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 8519 INFO RUCNCOM/EC CARICOM COLLECTIVE RUEHBH/AMEMBASSY NASSAU 0332 RUEHAO/AMCONSUL CURACAO 1061 RUEHTC/AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE 1562

UNCLAS PARAMARIBO 000435

STPDTS

SIPDIS

DEPT FOR WHA/CAR - LLUFTIG E.O. 12958: N/A TAGS: PREL PGOV CVIS NS

SUBJECT: SURINAME SIGNS VISA WAIVER AGREEMENTS WITH GRENADA

AND THE BAHAMAS

- 11. (U) On July 5 Suriname signed a visa waiver agreement with the Bahamas and Grenada. Suriname had called for the signing of the agreements since January 2005, requesting visa waivers from the two Caricom states for officials traveling on diplomatic and service passports and for nationals for stays of less than 90 days. While Grenada has fully granted the request, waiving all visa requirements for Surinamese traveling to the island, the Bahamas waived visa requirements only for a period of up to 90 days, according to local press reports.
- $\underline{\P}2$. (U) Grenada and the Bahamas were the only two Caricom countries that still required visas for Surinamese nationals. The signing of these agreements permits implementation of the Revised Treaty of Chaquaramas, which provides for free movement of skilled community nationals between the Caricom nations.

BARNES